

OKK Rec'd

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

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85-4259/3

OLL 85-3657/3

24 DEC 1985

The Honorable Charles B. Rangel  
Chairman  
Select Committee on Narcotics  
Abuse and Control  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your letter of November 18, 1985, requesting this Agency to appear before the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control in closed session to discuss numerous matters concerning intelligence collection and analysis as it relates to the foreign illegal narcotics trade.

I would be most willing to have my specialists brief your Committee about current trends in the illegal foreign drug trade on a regional basis. I must, however, ask that you not request us to discuss our capabilities and activities to collect against the narcotics target, nor that we be asked to discuss particulars of requirements or details of our relationships with foreign intelligence services. Such information is extremely sensitive and cannot be revealed without revealing sources and methods information which does not pertain strictly to the illegal foreign narcotics trade.

As you know, the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, provides an explicit statutory scheme for the provision of intelligence-related information to Congress. In this regard, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence serves as the focal point within the House for intelligence matters relating to the CIA. I believe that we have a sound relationship with that Committee that takes into account the oversight concerns of the Congress and the security concerns of the Executive Branch.

If the oversight process on such sensitive matters is to function effectively, I cannot respond routinely to congressional requests for information outside the normal

channels established by the National Security Act. I believe this is particularly the case where intelligence sources and methods are involved, as they are in this case. For these reasons, I hope you can appreciate my reluctance to discuss all the information you have requested.

I hope we might be able to satisfy your Committee's interests in the manner I have suggested. If this arrangement is acceptable to you, we will prepare for an initial meeting with your Committee at a mutually acceptable date. I will be happy to discuss this further if you desire.

Sincerely,

**/s/ William J. Casey**

William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence

Distribution:

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OLL/ [ ] (13 Dec 85)

STAT

**SECRET**  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



*DDCI prefers  
to have H8561  
broker this*

25X1

Director, Office of Legislative Liaison

25X1

5 December 1985

NOTE FOR: DCI  
DDCI

25X1

Following our earlier decision (see attached), we offered Rangel's staff a secret level DI-type briefing. Response was Rangel would not be satisfied. This was staff reaction, not Rangel's. Suggest DCI or DDCI talk to Rangel, then we can decide on a written response if one is needed.



Charles A. Briggs

25X1

**SECRET**



**SECRET**

03 DEC 1985

NOTE FOR: D/OLL

FROM : AC/LD/OLL

SUBJECT : More on the Request of the House Select Committee  
on Narcotics Abuse and Control for a Briefing

1. Following receipt today of the DDCI's note authorizing a DI/NIO briefing for the above Committee, I called the Committee's Staff Director, John Cusack. As anticipated, he was not pleased with our response, noting that the Committee was already aware of how the Agency and Community support policy and law enforcement agencies and that they were not interested in a general trends and threat briefing. He said that Mr. Rangel would not understand why he and the Committee Members (especially Mr. Gillman (R., NY) who is very active in this Committee) could not have a briefing on Agency capabilities, activities, and priorities in collecting information on drug traffickers and illicit narcotics activities abroad. I offered to bring NIO Charlie Allen down to meet with Mr. Cusack and/or Mr. Rangel, but this was brushed aside. I did my best to explain that operational information was only shared with our oversight committees; he insisted that Mr. Rangel did not want a confrontation but did want the relevant information.

2. Mr. Cusack's final suggestion was that perhaps the DCI would be willing to meet informally and off the record with Mr. Rangel and other Committee Members. He said that Rangel did not want to play James Bond, but he did want to know if the Agency had enough resources to do its job, and he wanted to know how we were doing in various key countries.

3. This would seem to be yet another place where the HPSCI should step in to protect both its and our equities; I would not expect them to do so, however. Please advise regarding our next response to Mr. Rangel. The ball is currently back in our court.

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**SECRET**

SECRET

27 NOV 1985

558

Executive Registry

85- 4619/1

NOTE FOR: D/OLL

FROM : DC/LD/OLL

SUBJECT: Request for Briefing from House Select Committee  
on Narcotics Abuse and Control

1. On 27 November Charlie Allen, the NIO for Counterterrorism, [redacted] the Office of Global Issues, and someone from the DO terrorism shop sat down and considered the attached letter. They recommend that we do the briefing if, and only if, the Committee agrees to the following ground rules:

25X1

We will not discuss requirements nor CIA's collection capabilities and activities--the ticks labeled No on the attached letter.

Charlie will do a Secret-level general trends and threat briefing and discuss how the Intelligence Community (not just the CIA) responds to the needs of the policymakers and the law enforcement agencies.

[redacted] will discuss the Agency's role in the development of the annual narcotics estimate (she is our representative to the National Narcotics Intelligence Consumers Committee). She will also explain our methodology for estimating narcotics crops, but will not get into specific country assessments because of sources and methods and the wide range of assessments within the Community.

25X1

2. If you approve, I will negotiate this with the Committee staff. I anticipate that they will not be happy. Our only other option would be to turn them down en toto, and that seems to me to be politically unwise. I am not aware of any administration tenderness on these issues, only our own sensitivity toward protecting sources and methods and operational matters.

3. Please advise.



25X1

agreed to  
w/o DDI  
substantive  
brief -

25X1

CHARLES H. ROSEN  
CHAIRMAN

PETER W. RODINO, NEW JERSEY  
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EDOLPHUS "ED" TOWNS, NEW YORK

Executive R

85-4619

# U.S. House of Representatives

SELECT COMMITTEE ON  
NARCOTICS ABUSE AND CONTROL  
ROOM H2-234, HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING ANNEX 2  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

COMMITTEE PHONE 202-226-3040

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LAWRENCE COUGHLIN, PENNSYLVANIA  
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JOHN G. ROWLAND, CONNECTICUT

JOHN T. CUSACK  
CHIEF OF STAFF  
ELLIOTT A. BROWN  
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

November 18, 1985

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

85-3657

Honorable William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

In our examination of the Administration's Federal drug strategy, the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control has been holding a series of informal briefings this year with various drug control agency heads to review the roles of their agencies in narcotics control.

An issue of continuing concern to the Committee and many of the drug enforcement agencies we have talked with is the need to expand and improve narcotics intelligence. As we continue our oversight, the Committee would very much like to meet with you and appropriate members of your staff in closed session to receive a briefing on the Central Intelligence Agency's responsibilities and participation in narcotics intelligence collection, analysis and dissemination. Among the issues we would like you to discuss are:

No -- the requirements for narcotics intelligence collection assigned to the CIA;

OM -- the CIA's capabilities and activities to assess (1) illicit coca cultivation and processing in Peru, Bolivia, Colombia, Brazil and Ecuador; (2) illicit marijuana production in Mexico, Jamaica, Colombia and Belize; (3) illicit opium cultivation and processing in Thailand, Burma, Laos, Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Turkey and Mexico; and (4) eradication of illicit narcotics crops in these areas;

No -- the CIA's capabilities and activities to collect intelligence on major traffickers and trafficking organizations engaged in smuggling illicit narcotics to the United States;

OM -- the CIA's relationship to the National Narcotics Intelligence Consumers Committee and the agency's role in the development of the annual narcotics intelligence estimate (the most recent one, which was just released, covering 1984);

DCI  
EXEC  
REG

Honorable William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence

-2-

NIO

-- the CIA's support to and cooperative efforts with other agencies responsible for drug control including the DEA, the Bureau of International Narcotics Matters in the State Department, the Coast Guard, and the U.S. Customs Service;

No

-- the capabilities and activities of the CIA to collect information on the links between international narcotics trafficking, political insurgency and terrorism;

No

-- the capabilities and activities of the CIA to collect intelligence on the involvement of foreign governments, directly or indirectly, in the production, processing, or trafficking of illicit narcotics and psychotropic drugs;

No

-- the priority assigned to drug intelligence collection efforts by the CIA and the impact of other international developments on these efforts; and

NIO

-- the CIA's perspective on the international situation in the latter half of the 1980's and the implications for narcotics control.

I would appreciate it if your staff could arrange the details of this briefing with John T. Cusack, Chief of Staff of the Select Committee. We would like to hold this briefing before Congress recesses this year at the end of the first session of the 99th Congress. In view of the sensitive matters to be discussed, the briefing will be limited to the Members of the Committee and Committee staff with appropriate clearances.

Sincerely,

  
CHARLES B. RANGEL  
Chairman

## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

Charles A. Briggs  
Director, Office of Legislative  
Liaison

EXTENSION:

NO.

DATE

13 DEC 1985

25X1

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S  
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

DDO

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EXDIR

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DDCI

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DD/OLL has seen  
D/O L L has seen

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DCI

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D/OLL

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15.

This package contains for DCI signature four letters; a response to Chairman Jack Brooks' request for sensitive polygraph data, a response to Chairman Charles Rangel's request for collection information on the narcotics target and a letter to Chairman Hamilton (copy to Durenberger) relating the Brooks and Rangel requests to intelligence oversight.

The point to the whole package is to show how intelligence oversight is getting away from the Intelligence Committees, to show what we are doing to stop the spread, and to put on the record a request for assistance.

Charles A. Briggs

Reused per DDCI

PLEASE CALL  
FOR

HAND DELIVERY

DCI  
EXEC  
REG